

BOARD OF REGENTS FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 10, 2005

A meeting of the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education was held at the Shepard Building - 255 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903 and convened at 4:30 PM.

In Attendance

J. DiPrete, P. Guida, R. Camara, A. Beretta, M. Paradis and K. Forbes

Public Remarks:

There were no public remarks.

Chairman Remarks:

- a. Chairman DiPrete reported that he had attended the release of the state test scores yesterday at the Davies Career and Technical High School.
- b. He also presented a Regents certificate to RIDE Deputy Commissioner, Todd Flaherty on his induction into the Narragansett High School Mariner Hall of Fame.

Approval of Minutes

MOVED AND SECONDED: That, The Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education Approve the Meeting Minutes and Executive Minutes of October 27, 2005 as Presented.

VOTE: Approved Unanimously.

Approval of Members to the Rhode Island School for the Deaf Board of Trustees

RIDE staff member, Keith Oliveira explained that this item is being brought forward from the last meeting. The State and Charter Schools committee met with the two candidates, Karen Fifer Ferry and Jennifer LeCompte and is now forwarding the item to the full Board for approval.

MOVED AND SECONDED: THAT, the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education Approve Members to the Rhode Island School for the Deaf Board of Trustees, as Recommended by the Board of Regents State and Charter School Committee.

VOTE: Approved Unanimously.

Approval of Homeless Regulations

RIDE staff member Janet Carroll reviewed the process and changes to the regulations. The changes included the incorporation of IDEA and existing state law with regard to special needs children and special needs unaccompanied homeless youth; and to clarify the provision not to have transportation delayed pending transportation agreements between the district of origin and the district in which the child or youth is temporarily residing in.

MOVED AND SECONDED: THAT the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education Approve the Final State Regulations for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth as presented, effective November 10, 2005.

VOTE: Approved Unanimously.

[Regent Patrick Guida requested that the order of the agenda be changed to allow for Regents Committee Reports to be heard next on the agenda. There were no objections].

Regents' Committee Reports

- a. **Progressive Support and Intervention** – Regent Guida reported on discussions with Deputy Commissioner David About and Director of the Office of Progressive Support and Intervention, Mary Canole about how possible changes to the BEP will impact PS&I. The group has also been talking about the issues facing the department's work with districts and districts that are experiencing difficulties. Ms. Canole told the members of the Board that the biggest issue is leadership. That, in most cases, the district could have prevented a lot of their problems if issues related to leadership had been addressed early on. The group has also been discussing the coordination of district visits.
- b. **Administrator & Teacher Quality** – Deputy Commissioner, David Abbott reported to the group that the BOR's Administrator & Teacher Quality Committee and the Office of Teacher Certification will be coming before the Board in the near future requesting approval for a name change for the office; and changes to the certification of principals will be coming before the Board for approval for public hearing.
- c. **Personnel and Finance** ~ Regent Camara reported that the Regents Personnel and Finance Committee has been meeting with members of NEEP (High Performance Schools Exchange) talking about energy efficient schools. They have also been working on proposed changes to school construction regulations.

Report on State Assessments

Commissioner McWalters and Director of Assessment, MaryAnn Snider reported that a press release on the state assessment results has been released. The Commissioner then gave a brief overview of the test results.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner McWalters reported to the Board that he had attended a "Just for the Kids" event; and a two-day workshop on the new high school diploma system with 12 high schools.

He had also attended the PK-16 meeting with Chairman DiPrete and would be giving a presentation on state test scores at the next meeting – December 14th. Chairman DiPrete asked that the Commissioner do the same PK – 16 presentation for the Regents.

The Commissioner reported that the department has been working closely with the Governor and his staff on the budget.

Chairman DiPrete told the members of the Board that the former Director of the Office of Teacher Certification, Doris Anselmo had passed away this afternoon and asked that the Board observe a moments of silence in her memory.

Executive Session

As per R.I.G.L. 42-46-5-(2), the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m. for Executive Session.

The meeting reconvened to open session at 7:45 p.m.

MOVED and SECONDED: That the minutes of the Executive Session be sealed.

VOTE: Approved Unanimously.

Adjourn

With unanimous consent the meeting adjourned immediately at 7:50 p.m.